

Board removes faculty tenure cap

Gallaudet's Board of Trustees voted Feb. 5 to remove the cap on the number of University level faculty that can be placed on tenure track.

The board, which met on Kendall Green Feb. 4 and 5, placed a cap on tenure in 1985, allowing only 65 percent of the faculty hired by the University

to be placed on tenure track. The decision to remove the cap was made on the recommendation of Gallaudet President I. King Jordan after he received recommendations from a task force on tenure made up of faculty, administration, and board representatives.

Speaking on behalf of the board, Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, acting chair of the board in the absence of Philip Bravin, authorized the administration to develop procedures to convert full-time contract positions—approximately 60 employees—to full-time tenure status.

In a report on the health of Bravin, who is recuperating from major surgery, Jackson stated that Bravin has indicated that he plans to attend the board's spring meeting at the University.

In his report to the board, Dr. Jordan described the progress in developing a vision statement for Gallaudet and the University's plans to refocus on undergraduate education. Jordan also described campus events celebrating Black History Month, the events that will recognize the fifth anniversary of the Deaf President Now movement March 8-12, and Diversity Day on April 15, when University operations will be suspended to discuss racial and ethnic issues.

Dr. Mervin Garretson, chair of the Committee on Development, announced that the Development Office achieved 81 percent of its fund raising goal for the 1992 calendar year, netting \$7,035,514 in gifts and \$822,763 in pledges. The sum includes the \$4 million donated by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for the new Conference Center for Training and Development. The Development Office's goal for 1993 is \$4.4 million, said Garretson.

continued on page 2

African-American literature discussed

Five African-American authors participated in a lively exchange about issues relating to African-American literature with people from across the United States at a Feb. 3 teleconference, "Beyond the Dream V: The Writers, The Stories, The Legacy."

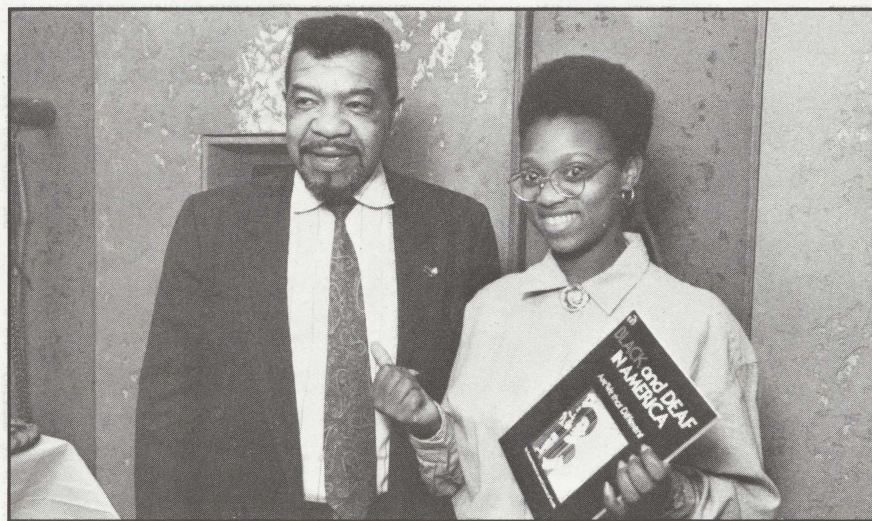
The teleconference was broadcast from Black Entertainment Television in Washington, D.C., and was viewed at hundreds of locations, including Gallaudet, where it was sponsored by the Division of Academic Support and Student Development.

The panel included Marita Golden, who also spoke at Gallaudet Feb. 1, Modern Language Association President Houston A. Baker, Jr., poet Nikki Giovanni, and novelists Terry McMillan and Charles Johnson. Renee Poussaint, "Prime Time Live" correspondent for ABC-News, hosted the teleconference.

The event opened with an overview of African-American storytelling, which extends back to the days before Africans were brought to America as slaves, when stories were passed down from generation to generation.

Some of the recurring issues at the teleconference were the complexity of African-American literature, the writers' rich contributions to the overall field of literature, and the neglect of the genre by

continued on page 2



Author Ernest Hairston poses with Black History Month committee member Georgia Edwards after autographing his book, *Black and Deaf in America*, for her at a Feb. 5 book signing.

Session covers role of black men

Gallaudet "brothers"—black male students and staff—met Feb. 4 for a rap session that covered issues ranging from the images of black men in the media, the role of African versus African-American people at Gallaudet, and why many black students leave Gallaudet before earning a degree.

The panel was moderated by Dr. Glenn Anderson, the only black member of the University's Board of Trustees.

American society's image of black men is generally negative, and the media is largely responsible for conveying this portrayal, Anderson said. Black men are often shown being arrested, or with guns. "The only positive image [of black men in the media] is in sports," not in leadership or business, he said. In contrast, black women are shown in a more positive manner, said Anderson.

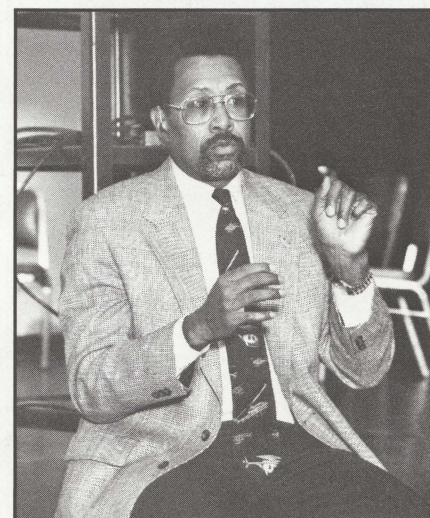
Some participants expressed the opinion that black people generally are underrepresented among the University's faculty and staff and that many of the jobs that go to black people are held by Africans. Some members of the audience pointed out that this could be attributed to the high ambition that motivates Africans to travel overseas to study at Gallaudet. After they arrive here, they must work hard and do well, because it is difficult and expensive to return home. African students also tend to be older and are perhaps more responsible, Anderson theorized.

One student asserted that the University often seems to expect the Black Deaf Student Union to represent all minority groups at Gallaudet. The University does not consult the Hispanic or Asian clubs on diversity issues, according to the student. He also said that Gallaudet does not give black students enough support, and this leads to many students leaving the University.

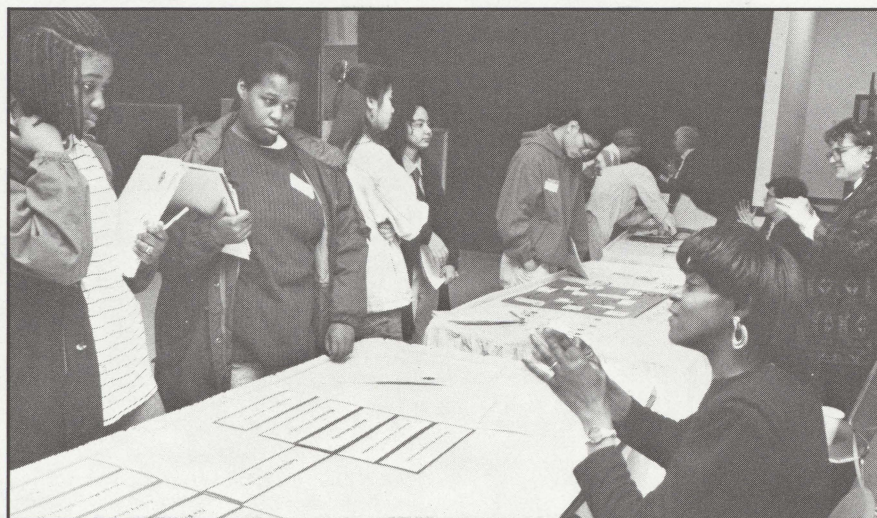
Anderson pointed out that when black students drop out of school, they deprive each other, as well as black deaf children, of college-educated role models. "There aren't enough [black] leaders in the deaf community. We need to stand up to the majority, to speak out for our concerns. If we don't take care of our people, who will? We can't ask white people to do it for us."

Anderson said that he has been pushing for more black people on the Board of Trustees. "That will give us more foundation to push for more change in the administration," as well as an increased emphasis on African-American culture in course offerings, he said.

The University will focus on racial and ethnic issues April 15 when it holds Diversity Day. All other campus operations will be suspended on that day so that all members of the Gallaudet community will be free to participate in the activities.



Board of Trustees member Dr. Glenn Anderson leads a Feb. 4 "rap session" among black men at Gallaudet.



Academic Advisor Angela Gilchrist talks with some of the approximately 100 deaf high school students from the local area who attended College Day at Gallaudet Feb. 8 and 9 to learn more about the University. The event was sponsored by the recruitment office.



(From left): JoAnn McAnn of the U.S. Department of Education, Marjorie Boone of SHHH, Jeff Hutchins of Caption America, and Linda Randall of NCI, members of an advisory committee for a study to improve captioning practices, meet at Gallaudet. (Photo by Yoon Lee)

Improved captioning goal of study

A good writer of videocaptions knows that providing only the spoken text of a program will leave deaf audiences confused about its meaning. Sound effects, music, laughter, accents, even long dramatic pauses need to be conveyed for deaf viewers to get the full understanding.

However, at present there are no set standards to specify how non-speech information in a program is captioned.

To enhance the understanding of captioning, Gallaudet's Technology Assessment Program (TAP) is in the process of conducting an 18-month study of captioning practices and consumer preferences. The goal of the research is to make captions include the many forms of essential information

besides that which is spoken.

The TAP study, which is funded by the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, will assess current captioning practices and test these practices with deaf and hard of hearing consumers. The results will then be presented to caption companies with the hope that they will influence caption standards.

An advisory committee composed of captioning company representatives and consumer experts will help guide the study. The group held its first meeting on campus Jan. 22.

For more information about the TAP captioning study, call Barbara Virvan, TAP research associate, x4436.

Panel of authors leads teleconference

continued from page 1

many educators, critics, and publishers.

African-Americans have a long, rich literary heritage, but it is often neglected in the public schools, and this hurts children, said the authors on the panel.

McMillan described her experiences with African-American literature in college as "scary. I hadn't seen it before. It was pretty intense." Three other panelists said their first exposure to written and oral stories about people of their own race was at home—they had to wait until their college years to

read works by African-American writers in a classroom setting. The only exception was Giovanni, who read poetry by Langston Hughes, a leader of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s, at the segregated school she attended.

Baker credited his success as a scholar of African-American literature to his parents, who paid him 10 cents for each book he read and 25 cents for each book review he wrote.

Panelists discussed topics ranging from Spike Lee's movies to a controversial passage in one of McMillan's novels, *Waiting to Exhale*, in which a group of black women denigrate black men. The authors discussed the need for colleges to hire more African-American faculty members to provide role models for students.

Panelists asserted that African-American literature needs more attention in school curriculums. McMillan urged black students to read widely. "To really appreciate the written word, you should read everything—not just black writing."

Several Gallaudet students expressed disappointment that the University has only one African-American literature course. They said that this course is not acceptable for the literature part of the humanities requirement—as are courses such as German literature in English translation.

Dr. Barbara Hardaway, associate professor of English at the Northwest Campus and co-site facilitator for the teleconference, pointed to the need for more role models for black students at Gallaudet. Eileen Matthews, director of the Department of Technical Studies, also a site facilitator, urged students to ask the library and bookstore for ample literature by black authors.

Noted educator Thomas Landers dies

Dr. Thomas Landers, 63, professor of administration at the School of Education and Human Services and its first dean from 1979 to 1985, died from cancer on Feb. 8 at the Washington Hospice.

Dr. Landers is known to his students and colleagues as a pioneer in eliminating barriers that kept deaf people out of education and related professions, developing degree programs that opened new careers to deaf people, and developing educational leaders to improve both deaf and general education. One of his most significant accomplishments was developing a teacher education program at Gallaudet that qualified deaf and hard of hearing students for regular state teacher certification. In addition, when its first NCATE examiners recommended SEHS programs for national professional accreditation they cited the school as a "world class collegiate model."

Landers was frequently invited to

lecture in the United States, Europe and Asia, where he presented more than 100 papers. He also was founder and president of the Comparative Studies Association, which administers study programs abroad for universities and professional associations.

"Dr. Landers was an outstanding example of a professional deeply devoted to his students, at the same time as showing worldwide leadership in his field," said Dr. David Martin, dean of SEHS. "He will be deeply missed." In 1992, SEHS began an annual lecture series named for Landers.

A service was held Feb. 13 at the Fort Lincoln Funeral Home in Brentwood, Md. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Thomas J. Landers Student Award Fund in care of Gallaudet.



Dr. Thomas Landers

Announcements

A memorial service for Dr. Larry Stewart, a professor of clinical psychology at Gallaudet who died Nov. 26, will be held for the University community on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 3:30 p.m. A reception will follow. The service is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Ten-week dance and gymnastics classes for deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing children ages 4-13 will be offered by the National Deaf Dance Academy beginning Feb. 20. Classes are held Saturday mornings on Kendall Green. The cost per 10-week session is \$35 for ballet, jazz, hip-hop, or tap, or \$85 for three sessions, and \$40 for gymnastics. For more information, call Sue Gill-Doleac, x5591.

Board meets on campus Feb. 4 and 5

continued from page 1

Garretson presented a proposal asking the board to consider naming new and renovated campus facilities after individuals and groups who have made significant financial contributions toward their completion. Garretson said that this practice, which is common at colleges and universities across the nation, encourages increased involvement by parties in the development of private support for the University.

The board approved a motion by Garretson to appoint Dr. Clifford Smith, president of the General Electric Foundation of Fairfield, Conn., to become a member of Gallaudet's Board of Associates. Smith is a former resident of Washington, D.C., and former chancellor

of the University of Wisconsin.

The board approved sabbatical leaves for the spring 1994 semester to eight faculty members: Dr. Spencer Gibbins, Psychology Department, Dr. Joseph Kinner, History Department, Dr. Michael Moore, Chemistry Department, Dr. Carol Erting and Clayton Valli, both of the Department of Linguistics and Interpreting, Drs. James Achtzehn and Marilyn Sass-Lehrer, both of the Department of Education, and Carole Bateman, Department of Science, School of Preparatory Studies.

The board also approved a number of policy revisions to the *Administration and Operations Manual* that were required by Congress when it reauthorized the Education of the Deaf Act last October.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed free for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TTY. Ads may be run two weeks if requested and if space permits. Ads received Feb. 15-19 will be published March 1.

WANTED: Female/male mature nonsmoker to share 3-level townhouse in Bowie, Md., w/2 1/2 baths, garage, cable TV, W/D, bus to subway, must have own trans. and love dog, \$320/mo. plus 1/3 util. Call Dan, (301) 249-0722 (TTY) evs. or E-mail CRCHURCH.

WANTED: Navy blue coat that was hanging on fence at Gallaudet track 4:45-5 p.m. Jan. 27. Please return to T.L. Tinch, KDES, Room 2325, x5045, or E-mail TLTINCH.

FOR SALE: 3-ft. refrigerator, good cond., \$50/BO. E-mail BWHUNTINGTON.

FOR RENT: 2 rooms in large detached home in Montpelier area, Laurel, Md., very large BR w/private bath, \$450/mo.; large BR w/shared bath, \$350/mo.; incl. util., avail. now, furn. avail. Call Rick, (301) 490-8397 (V/TTY) or E-mail GAOLIVA.

WANTED: Nonsmoking females to share townhouse in Laurel, Md., furn. BR, cable TV, no pets, own trans., \$250/mo. plus 1/4 util. Call Bonnie, x5226 or (301) 725-2271 (TTY).

FOR SALE: Flashing system signaler for doorbell, telephone, receiver, smoke monitor plus accessories, \$95; wood bunk bed (2 twin beds), incl. head, footboard, frames, \$90. Call Dennis, x5497, (301) 776-1713 (TTY) or E-mail DGBERRIGAN.

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